

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview and via email with Anthony Hartmann on 8/23/2011.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1) **Claim 30**, line 12, ---and wherein the successive layers have a bulk density which increases from the bottom toward the top;—is **added** after 'layer'

2a) **Claim 54**, line 2, after 'comprising:' --a dry fraction of solid urban waste in shredded form; is **added**

2b) Claim 54, line 3, 'a' after 'consisting of' is **replaced** by ---said---

2c) Claim 54, line 5, --first—is **inserted** between 'one' and 'metering'

2d) Claim 54, line 6, ---at least one second component in shredded form selected from the group consisting of elastomeric materials and thermoplastic materials;— is **added** after 'component;'

2e) Claim 54, line 7, --said-- is **inserted** between 'for and 'at'

2f) Claim 54, line 8, ---selected from an elastomeric material and a thermoplastic material—is **deleted** after 'from'

2g) Claim 54, line 10, ---second—is **inserted** between 'one' and 'metering'

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2h) Claim 54, line 13, ---first and second at least one metering and feeding devices; wherein said at least one first and second metering and feeding devices are located in positions on said continuous conveyor such that the first and second at least one metering and feeding devices---**replaces** 'feeding and metering devices so as to'

2i) Claim 54, line 15, --such that bulk density increases from the bottom to the top layer--- is **added** after 'conveyor'

2j) Claim 54, line 17, 'and' is **deleted**

2k) Claim 54, line 19, --and --is **added** after conveyor'

2l) Claim 54, line 19, **a period '.'** after 'conveyor' is replaced by --;**a semicolon**

2m) **Claim 54**, line 19, after 'conveyor',---a device for compaction of the shredded components.—is **added**

3) **Claims 46 and 58 are cancelled.**

4) **Claim 47**, line 1, '46' is **replaced** by --30—

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 30-45 and 47-57 are allowed.**

3. The following is an examiner's statement **of reasons for allowance**:

A process for producing a refuse derived solid fuel and feeding said fuel to a combustion plant, comprises: providing a first waste component consisting of a dry fraction of solid urban waste in a shredded form; a second waste component in a shredded form selected from an elastomeric material and/or a thermoplastic material; so

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as to form successive layers on continuous conveyor, wherein the successive layers have a bulk density increases from the bottom toward the top layer.

The prior art of Delpiano (6152974), Zucchelli (6375691) and Schnitzler (3655098) disclose solid urban dry waste, thermoplastic and/or elastomeric waste components in shredded form so as to meter and feed them on a continuous conveyor but does not form successive layers of these components having a bulk density which increases from the bottom toward the top layer as claimed by the invention or it can be motivated with out impermissible hindsight.

Conclusion

None the cited prior art discloses the subject matter of the invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nikhil Mashruwala whose telephone number is (571)270-3519. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday- 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven McAllister can be reached on 571-272-6785. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Nikhil Mashruwala/
Examiner, Art Unit 3749

/STEVEN B. MCALLISTER/
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